REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 5, 2005 has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks, are submitted as a full, complete, and timely response thereto. No claims have been amended and no new claims have been added to the application. Thus, claims 1-15 are submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being unpatentable over *Parikh* (electronic document located at www.nokia.com/library/files/). The Office Action took the position that *Parikh* teaches each and every element recited in claims 1-15. Applicants traverse the rejection and respectfully submit that claims 1-15 recite subject matter that is neither taught nor disclosed by *Parikh*.

Applicants' independent claim 1 recites a method for ensuring continuity of a communication session when user equipment hands over from a first cellular communication network to a second cellular communication network. The method includes performing an authentication procedure for a packet data session with the second communication network while still being attached to the first communication network, and simultaneously performing a packet data session establishment procedure with the second communication network while still being attached to the first communication network.

Applicants' independent claim 10 recites a method for ensuring continuity of a communication session. The method includes handing over by a user equipment from a first communication network to a second cellular communication network, and when the user equipment hands over from the first communication network to the second cellular communication network. The method further includes maintaining an attachment of the user

equipment to the second cellular communication network after the user equipment moves away from a coverage area of the second cellular communication network for a predetermined time, in order to allow the user equipment to return to the second cellular communication network without having to repeat an authentication procedure and a packet data session establishment procedure before handing over to the second network.

Applicants' independent claim 14 recites a communication system comprising user equipment, a first communication network, and a second cellular communication network. The communication system is arranged enable continuity of a communication session when a user equipment moves from a coverage area of the first communication network to a coverage area of the second cellular communication network, and simultaneously perform an authentication procedure for a packet data session with the second cellular communication network and perform a packet data session establishment procedure with the second cellular communication network, while the user equipment is still attached to the first communication network.

Applicants' independent claim 15 recites a communication system for ensuring continuity of a communication session when user equipment hands over from a first communication network to a second cellular communication network. The communication system includes a first performing means for performing an authentication procedure for a packet data session with a second communication network while still being attached to a first communication network, and second performing means for simultaneously performing a packet data session establishment procedure with the second communication network while still being attached to the first communication network.

As will be discussed below, Applicants submit that each of independent claims 1, 10, 14, and 15, and claims dependent thereupon, recite subject matter that is not taught or disclosed by *Parikh*.

Parikh teaches seamless handoff of a mobile terminal from a WLAN to a CDMA2000 network. The handoff process of *Parikh* includes sending a proxy router solicitation message to an access router, which sends a router solicitation to the packet data support node. The mobile terminal arranges to transfer the bearer content (information required to establish access network bearers in the CDMA2000 network for the mobile terminal's ongoing sessions) to the packet data support node via the access router. The bearer content may be piggybacked onto the fast handoff signaling or it can be transferred in a separate message. The packet data support node responds to the message using the router advertisement that is forwarded to the mobile terminal via the access router. The mobile terminal responds be sending a registration request to the packet data support node via the access router. This message contains the network address identifier, authentication data, etc. Upon receipt of the registration request, the packet data support node uses the network address identifier to determine the home AAA domain of the mobile terminal and queries the home domain via a broker forward process, for example, to obtain service authorization and authentication. The home AAA sends the response and includes a ticket with encrypted information therein, and the packet data support node stores the ticket and sends it to the mobile terminal via the access router along with any required configuration parameters. The handoff process of *Parikh* continues with the mobile terminal sending an acknowledge message to the packet data support node via the access router and includes the ticket for security and service authorization processes. While the mobile terminal is waiting, the CDMA2000 network performs bearer setup and the packet data support node performs

registration with the home agent. Upon receiving the registration reply from the home agent, the packet date support node forwards it to the mobile terminal on one of the established access bearers.

However, careful review of *Parikh* reveals that there is no teaching or disclosure of "simultaneously performing a packet data session establishment procedure with the second communication network while still being attached to the first communication network," as recited in claim 1. This feature allows the handoff process to include pre-authentication and pre-establishment of L3 procedures, which is not taught or disclosed by *Parikh*. More particularly, *Parikh* does not even discuss how the network layer L3 IP bearers are established in conjunction with the L2 authentication. In the present invention, pre-authentication in the UMTS system is included, along with the set up of the IP connectivity, and the packet data session establishment processes for the second network are conducted "simultaneously" while still being connected to the first network. *Parikh* fails to teach these features, and as such, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, along with dependent claims 2-9, is respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claim 10 over *Parikh*, Applicants submit that *Parikh* fails to teach or disclose each and every limitation recited in the claim. More particularly, claim 10 recites that "when the user equipment hands over from the first communication network to the second cellular communication network, maintaining an attachment of the user equipment to the second cellular communication network after the user equipment moves away from a coverage area of the second cellular communication network for a predetermined time in order to allow the user equipment to return to the second cellular communication network without having to repeat an authentication procedure and a packet data session establishment procedure before

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handing over to the second network." *Parikh* does not teach or disclose maintaining attachment to the previous network after the handoff process. Therefore, Applicants submit that *Parikh* fails to teach or disclose each and every limitation recited in the claims, and as such, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10, along with dependent claims 11-13, is respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claim 14, Applicants submit that *Parikh* fails to teach or disclose each and every limitation recited in the claim. More particularly, claim 14 recites that the system is arranged to "<u>simultaneously</u> perform an authentication procedure for a packet data session with the second cellular communication network and perform a packet data session establishment procedure with the second cellular communication network <u>while the user equipment is still attached to the first communication network</u>." As discussed above with regard to claims 1 and 10, *Parikh* does not teach or disclose simultaneous authentication with a new network while still being connected to a previous network. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 14 is respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claim 15, Applicants submit that *Parikh* fails to teach or disclose each and every limitation recited in the claim. More particularly, claim 15 recites a communication system having a first performing means for performing an authentication procedure for a packet data session with a second communication network <u>while still being attached</u> to a first communication network. As discussed above, this feature is not taught or disclosed by *Parikh*. Further, claim 15 recited a second performing means for <u>simultaneously</u> performing a packet data session establishment procedure with the second communication network <u>while still being attached to the first communication network</u>, which is also not taught or

disclosed by *Parikh*. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 is respectfully requested.
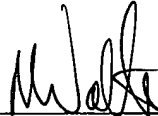
Therefore, Applicants submit that each of claims 1-15 recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor taught by *Parikh*, as each of these claims recite that the mobile terminal remains connected to a first network while the establishment procedures are conducted for the second network. There is no discussion of any simultaneous establishment procedures and connection to the previous network in *Parikh*. Although the Office Action broadly cites to the Abstract, Introduction, Section 4.1, and Figure 4 of *Parikh* as teaching this feature, Applicants have carefully reviewed the entire reference, and find no such teaching or disclosure in any of the cited sections. As such, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-15 is respectfully requested. Further, if the Office Action maintains the rejection of claims 1-15 over *Parikh*, Applicants respectfully request a specific citation to language in *Parikh* that recites that the handover process includes "simultaneous" connection to a first network while establishment procedures are conducted with a second network.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that claims 1-15 are pending the application and are submitted for consideration. Reconsideration of claims 1-15 in view of the above noted remarks is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

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